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SUBJECT: DRC GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

1. Summary: Late in the evening of Sunday, November 25, the DRC government, led by Prime Minister Antoine Gizenga, announced a cabinet reshuffle. Major changes include a reduction in the number of ministries from 40 to 33, the reduction of ministries of state from six to three, the appointment of two political figures to ministerial posts, and the removal of four ministers and nine vice-ministers. List of the new government follows at para 5. Bios of new ministers and comments will follow septels. (End summary).

2. Following the government reshuffle, the cabinet of Prime Minister Antoine Gizenga is now composed of 30 ministers, three ministers of state and 11 vice-ministers. The three remaining ministers of state are the Minister of State for Agriculture, the Minister of State for Interior, Decentralization and Security, and the Minister of State at the Presidency. Three other ministries -- Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Higher Education and Scientific Research, and Infrastructure and Public Works -- were downgraded from Ministries of State to the level of other working ministries.

3. Two politicians from the majority coalition (AMP -- Alliance de la Majorite Presidentielle) were appointed to the cabinet for the first time. These were Andre Philippe Futa, and Jose Endundu, respectively Minister of Economy and External Trade, and Minister of Environment and Tourism.

4. Among those removed from the government were four ministers: Toussaint Tshilombo Send, previously Minister of Information; Didace Pembe Bokiaga, previously Minister of Environment; Pardone Kaliba, previously Minister of Youth and Sports; and Georges Minsay, previously Minister of Justice. Among the Vice-Ministers losing their jobs is Alain Lubumba of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

5. Following is the composition of the reshuffled DRC government:

Ministers of State

Minister of State at the Presidency: Nkulu Mituba Kilombo

Agriculture: Nzanga Mobutu Ngbangawe

Interior, Decentralization and Security: Kalume Numbi, Denis

Ministers

Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister: Mayobo, Godefroid

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation: Mbusa Nyamwisi,

Defense and Veterans: Chikez Diemu

Justice: Mutombo Bakafwa Nsenda
Relations with Parliament: Lumanu Sefu, Adolphe
Planning: Kamitatu, Olivier
Finances: Matenda, Athanase
Budget: Muzito, Adolphe
Portfolio (State-owned Enterprises): Mabunda, Jeanine
Economy and Trade: Futa, Andre Futa
Communications and Media: Bongeli, Emile
Infrastructure and Public Works: Lumbi Okongo, Pierre
Industry: Mboso, Simon
Transport: Mwando Nsimba, Charles
Gender, Women and Children's Issues: Omatuku, Philomene
Higher Education and Scientific Research: Masuga, Leonard
Primary, Secondary, and Professional Education: Mwangu, Maker
Mines: Kabwelulu, Roger
Energy; Banamuhere, Salomon
Petroleum: Mende Omalanga, Lambert
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Postal Services, Telephone and Telecommunications: Mrs. Munga, Louise

Environment and Tourism: Endundu Bononge, Jos

Health: Makwenge, Victor

Housing: Ngabu, Sylvain

Property rights: Kabukabwa Bitangilay, Edouard

Labor and Social Security: Lukiana, Marie-Ange

Public Administration: Ikenge Lisambola, Simon

Social and Humanitarian Affairs: Muyambo, Jean-Claude

Culture and Arts: Kambale Esdras

Youth and Sports: Bikonga, Willy

Vice-Ministers

Interior: Mpangu, Joseph Dovel

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation: Gata, Ignace.

Congolese Diaspora: Mrs. Tshomba Tundu, Collette

Defense and Veterans: Amuri, Luc

Human Rights: Basibuye, Claude

Budget: Mbuyu, Celestin

Public Works: Nturaminyerwa, Gervais

Mines: Kasongo Shomary

Rural Development: Bonane ya Ngazi, Xavier

Scientific Research: Rugabisha, Zache

Professional Education: Sedea, Arthur

Garvelink